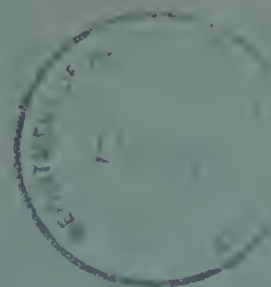


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WIMBORNE MINSTER URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(INCORPORATING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR/SURVEYOR)

FOR THE YEAR.....1971

WIMBORNE MINSTER URBAN DISTRICT

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

CHAIRMANCouncillor Dr. E.H. Markby

VICE-CHAIRMANCouncillor A.R. Maiden

COUNCILLORS:--

R.F. Corran

Mrs. M.G. Corran

C.H. Cowdry

S.I. Dennett

Mrs. S.M. Ell

F.W.J. Moore

H.V. Purchase

R.H. Rodway

Mrs. F.E. Skidmore

J.W. Smith

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH

DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. G.B. Hopkins, M.B., Ch.B., B.Pharm., D.P.H.

holding appointments of:-

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer.

School Medical Officer.

Medical Officer of Health - Wimborne Minster Urban District

Medical Officer of Health - Wimborne and Cranborne R.D.C.

Medical Officer of Health - Borough of Blandford Forum

Medical Officer of Health - Blandford Rural District

contributing roughly:-

Wimborne Minster Urban District	1/3 day per week
Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District	1/2 days per week
Borough of Blandford Forum	1/4 day per week
Blandford Rural District	1/2 day per week

Also

Medical Adviser to the Dorset Water Board.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR / SURVEYOR / HOUSING MANAGER

F. Caddick. M.R.S.H.

M.A.P.H.I.

Area Office,
Health Clinic,
Rowlands Hill,
Wimborne, Dorset.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present my Annual Report for 1971.

The year 1971 was distinguished, amongst other things, as census year and anti-pollution year, and members may be interested in the fluctuation in population of the urban district and of the surrounding rural district over the past fifty years:-

Census Population of the Wimborne Urban and Rural Districts,
1921 to 1971

	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971
W.U.D.C.	3,865	4,075	?	4,487	4,158	5,000
W.& C.R.D.C.	14,855	16,572	?	21,432	28,121	41,888

The Urban District has increased its population in the fifty year period, 1921 to 1971, by a factor of 29.3%, and the Rural District by a factor of 182%. In both districts there has been a signal increase in the decade 1961 to 1971, by 20% in the Urban District and by 41% in the Rural District.

For several years during Spring the inhabitants of Blandford Borough and adjacent riparian villages along the Stour have been subjected to a vicious plague of biting flies, authoritatively identified by Dr. Davis of Durham as Simulium austeni, which emerge from the river in vast numbers from about mid-April to mid-May and feed voraciously on man and animals for a few miles on either side of the river. Complaints from Wimborne and Cranborne Rural District Council and Wimborne Urban District have grown in the last two or three years.

The bites are characteristic. They produce marked irritation, pain which can be severe, often a blood blister three to six mms. in diameter, a raw area which may become septic and finally a scab which disappears in about one month. Firm swelling and redness occurs, occasionally completely surrounding a limb, often with lymphangitis and glandular involvement, and a temperature up to 102° has been recorded

in cases of multiple bites. Numerous victims have required bed rest and a leg may for instance be too painful to put to the ground for a week, necessitating absence from work. There has been one case of phlebitis followed by pulmonary embolus, a very serious complication.

General Practitioners in the worst affected areas in the Blandford district have been seeing roughly five persons per day during the period of emergence of the fly, amounting in the season to many hundreds of visits. Other doctors throughout the area are involved, and £2000 annually is a very conservative estimate of prescription costs and sickness absence.

Public annoyance and exasperation increase yearly and the problem has received publicity nationally and locally, in the press and on television. Threats to dump large quantities of insecticides into the river have been made and must be taken seriously. There is confirmatory expert evidence to support local opinion that the problem has increased annually. Some staff and Council members are coming to regard May with dismay.

Three methods of combating this problem have been considered. Firstly the use of insecticides. Secondly cutting river weeds which are literally foul with larvae and pupae in April and May, and thirdly, fundamental research.

Insecticides are widely condemned for their indiscriminate action, especially their toxicity for fish. Weed cutting is regarded with scepticism by River Board Staff owing to the sheer practical difficulties. The problem has been described by the Director of the Freshwater Biological Association Laboratory at Bindon Abbey as lending itself to research by a post-graduate science student with a view to finding a weakness in the natural history of the fly which could be exploited without harmful effects to the fauna and flora of the river, and this suggestion has subsequently come to fruition.

The customary statistics follow, together with the report of Mr. Caddick prepared before his retirement.

SEPTEMBER, 1972.

J. B. Hopkins

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres.....	654
Population as estimated by Registrar General.....	4,590
Estimated number of inhabited houses at 31/12/71.....	1,730
Rateable value at 1st April 1971.....	£258,836
Estimated product of lp. rate on 1st April 1971.....	£2,720

AS SUPPLIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Total	43	43	86
Legitimate	43	40	83
Illegitimate	-	3	3
<u>DEATHS</u>			
Deaths - all ages	38	52	90

	<u>Wimborne Urban District</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>Admin. County</u>
Standardised Birth Rate	20.1	16.0	15.7
Standardised Death Rate	13.7	11.6	10.9

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

<u>Poliomyelitis</u>		<u>Diphtheria</u>		<u>Tetanus</u>		<u>Whooping Cough</u>		<u>Smallpox</u>		<u>Measles</u>	<u>Rubella</u>
P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	R.	P.	P.
<u>Oral</u>											
150	215	147	113	150	156	139	5	59	11	151	13

P = Primary course
R = Reinforcing dose

HEAF TESTING AND BCG VACCINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AGED 13 years IN WIMBORNE AND DISTRICT

400 children were tested and of these 27 were found to give positive reaction. 14 had already been given BCG previously. 357 children were vaccinated with BCG vaccine.

SECTION A

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Ambulance Service is provided by the Dorset County Council. Control is centralised in Dorchester and the service operates from the Ambulance Station in Hanham Road.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

This is attached to the Poole General Hospital and provides a free service for the bacteriological examination of human specimens, food, milk and water.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

The County Council provides an Infant Welfare Clinic in Wimborne every fortnight. This is held at the Health Clinic, Rowlands Hill.

HOME HELP SERVICE

The local organiser for the Urban and Rural Districts of Wimborne attends to the detailed administration of this valuable service which has grown steadily since its inception. The organiser is based at the Ferndown Health Clinic and may be telephoned from 9 to 10.30 a.m. from Monday to Friday.

SECTION B

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles	49
Whooping Cough	1

TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of the year the number of cases in the Tuberculosis Register were as follows:-

<u>PULMONARY</u>	<u>NON-PULMONARY</u>
Males .....6	Males .....Nil
Females .....4	Females 1

SECTION C

SECTION C

STATISTICAL TABLES - 1971

<u>CAUSES OF DEATH</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	4	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast		2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus		1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	
Leukaemia	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	6
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	2	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	12	12
Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	3	10
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	7
Pneumonia	2	3
Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-
Congenital Anomalies	-	1
Symptoms and ill-defined Conditions	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-
<u>TOTAL ALL CAUSES</u>	38	52

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

To The Chairman and Members of the Council.

I hereby present my Annual Report for the year 1971, which marks the termination of my service at Wimborne.

The report is required by Statute to cover my work as public health inspector and ancilliary matters but this final report does cover some of my duties as your Surveyor.

TABLE OF VISITS AND NOTICES

The following is a list of my visits, and also includes those of Mr. Dennis, Technical Assistant up to the end of November. The numbers give the joint total, with Mr. Dennis's share in brackets. It does not include those of Mr. Carter, Assistant Surveyor, nor the whole of those of Mr. Dennis.

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE INSPECTIONS WERE MADE	NUMBERS AS			Surveyor	Housing Manager
	Public Health Inspector				
	Visits	Notices and Certificates			
		Informal				Formal
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(I)					
<u>BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT</u>					
Building Applications				25	
Planning Applications				28	
Closing Orders and Clearance Areas	6				
Housing Act Repairs	4	1	1		
Development Projects				6	
Landscaping work, maintenance and tree preservation				16(1)	9
Improvement Grants and Qualification Certificates	60	(See Special para: for Certificates issued)			
Electrical Improvements					8 (4)
Repairs, Painting and Fences					124 (84)
Building works				31(5)	
Dangerous Structures	8	3		1	
Unauthorised Work				10	2
Demolitions	1				
Garages, Sheds					7
Civic Centre Improvements				5	
	- 8 -				
					(II) Roads

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE
INSPECTIONS WERE MADE

NUMBERS AS

INSPECTIONS WERE MADE					
(1)	Public Health Inspector			Surveyor	Housing Manager
	Visits (2)	Notices and Certificates			
		Informal (3)	Formal (4)		
(5)	(6)				
(II) <u>ROADS, ETC.</u>					
Road Construction				15	
Road Repairs				5	
Road Inspections				30	
Road Reinstatements				22(20)	
Highway Planning				2	
Making up Private Streets				9	
Street Cleaning and Miscellaneous Works	16				12
Car Parks and Car Park Construction				107(69)	
Traffic Problems, Signs				13	
Vehicular Access to Premises				3	1
Public Lighting				5	
Rights of Way and Public Footpaths				9(4)	
(III) <u>DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE</u>					
Pumping Stations				9	
Sewers				6(5)	
Drains	4	1		83(78)	
Ditches and Watercourses	9				
(IV) <u>CONTROL OF SPECIAL PREMISES</u>					
Under Shops and Offices Act	52(46)	2			
Under Factories Act	3	3	1		
Under Petroleum Acts	3				
(V) <u>FOOD CONTROL AND WATER SAMPLING</u>	35(19)				

PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE INSPECTIONS WERE MADE	NUMBERS AS				
	<u>Public Health Inspector</u>			<u>Surveyor</u>	<u>Housing Manager</u>
	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Notices and Certificates</u>			
(1)	(2)	Informal (3)	Formal (4)	(5)	(6)
(VI) <u>PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCES AND PEST CONTROL</u>					
Com·plaint Investigation	18(2)	12		12	
Public Health Re-visits	24(2)				
Clean Air Act	6(1)	1	5		
Keeping of Animals	4(2)	1			3
Pest Acts	66(64)				
Verminous Conditions	5(5)				
(VII) <u>SERVICES:</u>					
Refuse Collection and Disposal	121(91)				
Public Toilets	4(3)				
Recreation Grounds and Playing Fields				21(14)	1
Council Plant Maintenance				56(56)	
Miscellaneous Matters re Public Services (including Works Study)	22(3)			28(23)	18(3)
(VIII) <u>HOUSING ESTATE MANAGE- MENT</u>					
Visits other than those under previous headings					93(12)
(IX) <u>HOUSING LIST</u>					
Visits for purposes of the Waiting Lists and arranging re-housing etc					28(3)
TOTALS:	471(238)	24	7	557(275)	306(105)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Points that call for special mention are as follows:

HOUSING ACT 1969

QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES:

A feature of the year was that of dealing with Qualification Certificates. Landlords were making applications so that applications for increased rents under the "Fair Rents" scheme could be pursued. The procedure is complicated and dealing with these matters was a time-consuming operation.

QUALIFICATION

QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES (contd.)

Only two applications had previously been received. One had been withdrawn and the other case was proceeding. Seventeen official applications were eventually made during the year, which including the earlier one were dealt with as follows:

PROVISIONAL QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES:

issued, i.e. where the full Standard Amenities were not provided, but plans submitted showing how these would be met	4
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FULL QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES :

where the full standard amenities already existed and the premises in good repair							
(a) Without any need for repairs				3			
(b) After repairs which were requested				6	..	..	9
APPLICATIONS withdrawn	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
APPLICATIONS refused because of inadequate state of repair	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
APPLICATIONS deferred, because of certain repairs needed	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
						TOTAL:	18

HOUSING ACT 1969. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS:

During 1971 the Council decided to accept for consideration Applications for Discretionary Grants. Two such Grants have been approved, and three were refused.

STANDARD AMENITY GRANTS :

These are obligatory where the conditions are met. When these were instituted in 1959 a spate of applications was expected because of the new main drainage. It was for this reason discretionary grants were not issued. Standard Grants over the period have been as follows:

Three years 1959 - 1961	..	..	..	..	88
Three years 1962 - 1964	..	..	..	..	36
Three years 1965 - 1967	..	..	..	..	17
The year 1968	..	..	..	..	3
The year 1969	..	..	..	..	1
The year 1970 (after the new Act)			..	..	12
The year 1971	..	..	..	..	8

THE TOWN SEWERAGE SYSTEM:

At the end of 1969 it became apparent from the flow through the Pumping Stations during periods of sustained rainfall that additional pumping capacity would soon be needed, perhaps with some related marginal improved sewer capacity.

I was therefore authorised to consult with the Consulting Engineers: Messrs W. Herbert Bateman and Associates for the preparation of a scheme of improvement.

It was necessary to compile accurate records of flows through the pumping and therefore had meters installed to record the aggregate hours of the intermittent pump operations, and daily records are kept and supplied monthly to the Consulting Engineers, together with the daily Wimborne rainfall records as supplied by Councillor Dr. Markby.

It was hoped to have a report before the end of the year but because of the unusual rainfall pattern of the year and because of the delay in getting information on likely development in the surrounding areas which would drain into various sections of the Council's system the Report is not yet ready. The Report will cost not more than £250. It is most important that an early decision is made. (The information about likely development has now been received).

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS:

Two main ones carried out during the year were the making up of Redcotts Road and the construction of the new car park which will keep Wimborne abreast of its estimated parking requirements.

TENANCY ALLOCATIONS AND HOUSING LIST :

There have been 26 new tenancy allocations during the year as follows:

Elderly Persons Bungalows	..	..	..	4
Flats	..	..	..	8
Bungalows	..	..	..	5
Houses	..	..	..	9

These were brought about as follows:

By two pairs of exchanges	..	..	..	4 tenancies
By transfer of tenants to other accommodation on the estate	..	..	..	6 tenancies
By taking cases from the housing list	..	..	..	16 tenancies

As at 1st January there were 117 cases on the General Housing Waiting List. During the year there were 36 cases removed from the general waiting list, 15 by re-housing and 21 by revision of the list. Against this 34 new cases have been added to the list.

CONCLUSION: Because of my imminent retirement this is my final report. I would therefore like to take this opportunity of recording my appreciation to the Council and the various Committees for the way they have sustained me whilst in office; to my colleagues both on the staff and among the workmen for their help and assistance, and to the Medical Officer of Health for his general guidance and help in all public health matters.

F. CADDICK
Public Health Inspector
Surveyor
Housing Manager

December 1971

